

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strike through~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1-3 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A wheel support bearing assembly for rotatably supporting an automotive wheel relative to a vehicle body structure, comprising:

an outer member having an outer periphery formed with a flange and an inner periphery formed with raceway surfaces;

an inner member formed with raceway surfaces confronting the associated raceway surfaces in the outer member;

double rows of rolling elements interposed between the raceway surfaces in the inner member and the raceway surfaces in the outer member, respectively; and

a sealing unit to seal opposite open ends of an annular bearing space delimited between the outer and inner members,

wherein the inner member includes a hub axle formed with one of the raceway surfaces and a wheel mounting flange, and

wherein the hub axle and the outer member have fiber flows with some thereof being cut off at and exposed to the raceway surface, and

wherein the angle of so exposed fiber flows relative to at least one of the raceway surface in the hub axle and the raceway surfaces in the outer member is chosen to be equal to or smaller than 15°.

2. (Currently Amended) A wheel support bearing assembly for rotatably supporting an automotive wheel relative to a vehicle body structure, comprising:

an outer member having an inner periphery formed with raceway surfaces;

an inner member formed with raceway surfaces confronting the associated raceway surfaces in the outer member;

dual rows of rolling elements interposed between the raceway surfaces in the inner member and the raceway surfaces in the outer member, respectively; and

a sealing unit to seal opposite open ends of an annular bearing space delimited between the outer and inner members,

wherein the inner member includes a hub axle formed with one of the raceway surfaces and a wheel mounting flange, and

wherein the hub axle has fiber flows with some thereof being cut off at and exposed to the raceway surface, and

wherein the angle of so exposed fiber flows relative to the raceway surface in the hub axle is chosen to be equal to or smaller than 15°.

3. (Currently Amended) A wheel support bearing assembly for rotatably supporting an wheel relative to a vehicle body structure, comprising:

an outer member having an outer periphery formed with a flange and an inner periphery formed with raceway surfaces;

an inner member formed with raceway surfaces confronting the associated raceway surfaces in the outer member;

dual rows of rolling elements interposed between the raceway surfaces in the inner member and the raceway surfaces in the outer member; and

a sealing unit to seal opposite open ends of an annular bearing space delimited between the outer and inner members,

wherein the outer member has fiber flows with some thereof being cut off at and exposed to the raceway surface, and

wherein the angle of so exposed fiber flows relative to each of the raceway surfaces in the outer member is chosen to be equal to or smaller than 15°.

4. (Previously Presented) The wheel support bearing assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the other of the raceway surfaces of the inner member is formed on an inner race segment that is mounted on an outer periphery of one end of the hub axle.

5. (Previously Presented) The wheel support bearing assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein the other of the raceway surfaces of the inner member is formed on an inner race segment that is mounted on an outer periphery of one end of the hub axle.

6. (Previously Presented) The wheel support bearing assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein the inner member includes two inner races having respective raceway surfaces

confronting the raceway surfaces provided in the outer member.

7. (Previously Presented) The wheel support bearing assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hub axle is made of a bearing steel or a carburized steel or a carbon steel having a carbon content within the range of 0.4 to 0.8%.

8. (Previously Presented) The wheel support bearing assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein the hub axle is made of a bearing steel or a carburized steel or a carbon steel having a carbon content within the range of 0.4 to 0.8%.

9. (Previously Presented) The wheel support bearing assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the outer member is made of a bearing steel or a carburized steel or a carbon steel having a carbon content within the range of 0.4 to 0.8%.

10. (Previously Presented) The wheel support bearing assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein the outer member is made of a bearing steel or a carburized steel or a carbon steel having a carbon content within the range of 0.4 to 0.8%.